

D-5661
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No. D 5661

February

Date 27/2/34

LabourDispute over unloading of rice on Soochow Creek
Bureau of Social Affairs attempts to mediate

D 5661

In connection with the dispute over the unloading of rice from boats on the Soochow Creek, the Bureau of Social Affairs convened a conference in the Bureau at 2.30 p.m. February 26 when representatives from all parties concerned were present. Wong Kang (王康), a staff member of the Bureau who presided, stated that in order to avoid further disturbances, the contract system of the wheelbarrow coolies be abolished and the rice porters be given employment. Owing to the differences in opinion of the parties present the meeting proved abortive.

Dried Goods Shop Workers' Union - Meeting

Some ten committee members of the Dried Goods Shop Workers' Union, at a meeting held in their office, 117 Foh Yeu Road, City, between 1.30 p.m. and 3 p.m. February 25 passed the following decisions :-

1. That at the request of some 100 unemployed workers in the trade, a letter be addressed to the Employers' Association asking it to arrange to re-employ these ex-workers.
2. That in connection with the demand of members for a flat increase of \$1 in wages per month, investigations be made into the amount of wages paid to workers preparatory to negotiations being conducted with the shop masters.
3. That a representative be detailed to negotiate with the Employers' Association over the dismissal of workers by the Yui Sung (裕昌) Shop, 462 Feking Road, and the Mur Chong (德昌) Shop, Rue Petiot.

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Labour (2)

With a view to settling the dispute in question, the Bureau of Social Affairs held a conference in the Bureau at 9.45 a.m. February 23, when representatives from both parties concerned were present. The delegation of the silver shop owners, however, pleading business depression, refused to accept the demand of the workers for the introduction of the "three-six" pay system and consequently the meeting proved abortive.

Doong Liang Sing Medicine Shop - strike continues

The strike situation in Doong Liang Sing Medicine Shop at 266 Seymour Road remains unchanged this morning.

Dispute over unloading of rice on Soochow Creek - Activities of Bureau of Social Affairs

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At 10.30 a.m. February 23, the Bureau of Social Affairs summoned five representatives of the unemployed rice porters along the Soochow Creek in Chapei to the Bureau for interrogation, when they were notified not to cause any further disturbances on pain of punishment and informed that the organ is arranging to secure work for the porters.

It will be recalled that disputes arose on several occasions ~~and~~ between these rice porters and wheelbarrow coolies employed by various rice hong in Chapei over the question of unloading of rice from boats on the Soochow Creek.

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February 21, 1934.

Morning Translation.

Ta Mei Wan Pao dated Feb. 20:

DISPUTE BETWEEN WHEELBARROW COOLIES & RICE PORTERS

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Regarding the dispute between wheelbarrow coolies and rice porters, the Public Safety Bureau has withdrawn the business certificate issued to Sz Ton-foh (史登福), foreman of rice porters of the Hoong Tai (鴻泰) Porters Company.

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Labour (3)

Shanghai Lamp Factory - closed down

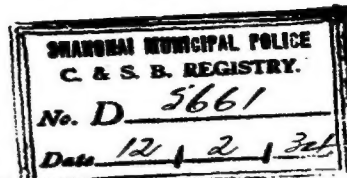
The Shanghai Lamp Factory, Lane 484, No. 12 Thorburn Road, closed down on February 8 in consequence of business depression. The forty workers in its employ have been paid off.

Dispute over unloading of rice on Soochow Creek - Chamber of Commerce appeals to City Government

In connection with the dispute between rice porters and wheelbarrow coolies over the question of unloading rice from boats on the Soochow Creek, two representatives of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce called at the City Government of Greater Shanghai, Civic Centre, at 11.10 a.m. February 10, and requested the authorities to withdraw the certificate issued by the Bureau of Public Safety to the foreman of the rice porters entitling them to unload rice. They were received by Mayor Wu Tieh-chen who informed them that the Bureau of Public Safety and Social Affairs would be notified to deal with the matter, whereupon they departed.

Lunar New Year - local workers to observe

In observance of the lunar New Year, some 142,250 workers of various local leading industrial concerns will suspend operation from February 13 to 15. Of this number, about 107,450 are in the employ of concerns in the Settlement. Japanese owned cotton mills, however, will suspend operations between February 13 and 15.



February 12, 1934.

Morning Times

Ta Mei Wan Pao dated Feb. 10:

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED IN CHINESE.
CONTROLLED TERRITORY.

Colonel Wen Hoong-en, Chief of the Public Safety Bureau, ordered precautionary measures to be adopted in Chapei and Nantao from February 11 to February 14 because at this time of the year when accounts are settled, there is a grave danger of people carrying money being held up and robbed.

All police officers are to be on duty and no leave of absence is to be granted. Extra police are on duty in populous districts and on the boundaries between Chinese controlled territory and the Settlement. Passengers from steamers and trains will also be subject to close scrutiny.

Ta Mei Wan Pao dated Feb. 10:

DISPUTE BETWEEN RICE PORTERS & MANAGERS OF RICE HONGS.

On January 5 at a meeting of various bureaux to settle the dispute between the managements of the rice hongs and the rice porters at Woosungkiang, it was decided that all rice hongs refrain from engaging Sz Ton-foh as foreman of the rice porters and the Business Certificate received by him from the Public Safety Bureau be withdrawn by the Bureau.

The certificate has not yet been withdrawn by the Public Safety Bureau. Fearing further untoward incidents, the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce held a meeting of the Standing Committee at which it was resolved that two committeemen be despatched to call on Mayor Wu Te-chen and personally present measures for the final settlement of the dispute.

The China Evening News dated Feb. 11:

RENT REDUCTION MOVEMENT.

The Shanghai House Rent Reduction Committee has issued the following notice:-

"To maintain trade and restore prosperity, this Committee was organized by delegates of various public bodies in Shanghai.

"We regret having received a letter from the Masons & Carpenters Union warning us that about 300,000 masons and carpenters will become unemployed as a result of the rent reduction movement.

"We shall hold a meeting at 2 p.m. to-day (Feb. 11) at which the matter will be discussed."

The masons and carpenters have protested because at a meeting held a few days ago by the Shanghai Real Estate Owners Association, it was decided that all

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Shanghai Municipality Pig Hong Workers' Union - meeting

Seven committee members of the above mentioned Union held a meeting in their office, Loh Ka Tang, Nantao, between 10.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. February 2. The arrest of Wong Keng-shou (王敬守) by the Chinese Police on January 30 (Vide I. R. 31/1/34) was discussed and the following resolutions were passed :-

1. That the local Kuomintang and the Bureau of Social Affairs be requested to secure the release of Wong Keng-shou and deal with the officer in charge of the Sub-Station concerned.
2. That should the appeals result in failure, a strike be declared.
3. That a legal advisor be engaged.

Dispute over Unloading of Rice on Soochow Creek - rice porters file suit against Rice Hong Owners

The seventeen rice porters injured on January 30 during a fight between them and the wheelbarrow coolies and the family of another porter who was killed during the same disturbance, have jointly filed a suit with the Shanghai District Court on February 1 against the Chapei Rice Hong Owners' Association for instigating the wheelbarrow coolies to assault the former.

Native Lighter Boatmen's Lien Yih Society - to raise fund through compulsory means prohibited by Bureau of Social Affairs

As a consequence of the Native Lighter Boatmen's Lien Yih Society, 3 Chung Hwa Road, Nantao, insisting on all boatmen on native lighters joining the body and demanding an entrance fee of \$1.00 for each lighter,

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Min Pao and other local newspapers :-

DISPUTE AT RICE HONGS IN CHAPEI.

The rice hongs in the vicinity of the Stone Bridge, Chapei, which suspended business as a protest against the dispute between wheelbarrow coolies and rice porters, have now resumed their normal operations.

In an interview with a newspaper reporter a spokesman of the Chapei Peas and Rice Merchants Association stated that the rice dealers still demand that the licence issued to the Hong Tai Transportation Co. by the Public Safety Bureau be cancelled and that Sz Tong Foh be arrested in order to prevent further disorder.

It is learned that the Hong Tai Transportation Co. will take action against those responsible for the assault of its workers.

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A similar appeal was made to the General Labour Union at 11.15 a.m. when they were informed that the Union would refer the dispute to the Chinese Authorities for a settlement.

Unloading of Rice on Soochow Creek - Situation

Under the protection of the Chinese Police, the unloading of rice from boats on Soochow Creek on February 1 was carried on without incident.

Sung Sing-sung (孙幸生), a staff member of the Bureau of Social Affairs, called at various rice honggs on Kwang Foh Road, Chapei, on the afternoon, with a view to ascertaining how many of the rice porters were formerly engaged in the trade.

February 1, 1934.

Afternoon Transmission.

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Sin Wan Pao and other local newspapers:

DISPUTE AT RICE HONGS IN CHAPEI

With reference to the dispute at the rice hongs in Chapei, the Social Bureau and the Public Safety Bureau yesterday issued the following proclamation:-

"At a meeting held some time ago by the Social Bureau in conjunction with officials of the local Tangpu, it was decided that the various rice hongs directly engage foremen at a fixed wage, and the latter are not to deduct expenses from the wages earned by the coolies.

"The Public Safety Bureau has withdrawn the certificate issued to Sz Tong-foh, foreman of the porters. The Social Bureau will request the rice hongs to give employment to the unemployed porters at the Rice Trade Wharf."

During the fighting on January 30 between wheelbarrow coolies and porters in Chapei, 18 men were injured, and one Lang Shou-lin (冷善林) of those injured died yesterday. A rumour that Hus Soong-ling (許松林) had died was denied by the workers.

February 1, 1934.

Morning Times

Central China Daily News and other local newspapers:

DISPUTE AT RICE HONGS IN CHAPEI.

Regarding the suspension of business of rice hongs at the Stone Bridge, Chapei, as a protest against the repeated attempts of Sz Ton-foh (史登福) and other porters to secure work, a meeting was held at 10 a.m. yesterday by about 60 representatives of various rice hongs in the premises of the Peas & Rice Merchants Association, Koo Lun Road (庫倫路), Chapei. Loh Ching-wen (陸景文) who presided, made the following statements:-

"Following the suspension of business of rice hongs, official organs have promised to detail police to afford protection. All hongs are expected to resume business and to accept the advice of the official organs. The Public Safety Bureau would be requested to adopt strict measures to check further disturbances."

The Peas & Rice Merchants Association and two other rice organizations yesterday issued the following circular notices:-

"Rice merchants were compelled to suspend business owing to the activities of Sz Ton-foh and other porters of the Hoong Tai Company (鴻泰公司).

"In view of the advice of the Police authorities and the assurance of the Public Safety Bureau, rice hongs will resume business."

Apart from issuing the notice, representatives of the various rice organizations accompanied by officials of the Police authorities called at various hongs shortly after 11 a.m. yesterday and persuaded the managers to resume.

It is reported that about 60 policemen and members of the Chapei French Volunteers Corps were on duty to prevent the unemployed porters creating disturbances. They were withdrawn shortly after 6 p.m.

Upon learning that the wheelbarrow coolies transporting rice were being molested on the Settlement roads by the unemployed, Colonel Wen Hoong-en, Chief of the Public Safety Bureau, sent a telephone message to the Police authorities of the International Settlement requesting them to post more police and detectives in the vicinity of Stone Bridge and Wu Tseng Road Bridge.

Central China Daily News (Nanking Telegram):

KOREAN ARRESTED IN FRENCH CONCESSION EXTRADITED TO JAPANESE AUTHORITIES.

With reference to the illegal arrest of Kim Shek, a Korean and naturalized Chinese subject, by the Japanese Consular Police with the assistance of the French Police in Shanghai, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has lodged strong protests with the French and the Japanese Legations and demanded the release of the arrested man.

February 1, 1934

Labour (3)

Unloading of rice on Soochow Creek - resumed

The unloading of rice from boats on the Soochow Creek is normal this morning, February 1.

At 10 a.m. January 31, the Chapei Rice Dealers' Association held an urgent meeting in its office, 212 Kulang Road, Chapei, when some 100 Chinese including representatives from the Bureau of Public Safety attended. The disturbances by the rice porters were discussed and on advice given by the delegates of the Public Safety Bureau, it was decided to resume business on the following conditions pending a settlement of the dispute by the Authorities :-

1. That the Chapei Police render protection.
2. That the Bureau of Public Safety notify the S.M.P. to give protection to wheelbarrow coolies transporting rice to the Settlement.

This decision resulted in 33 Rice Honges on Kwang Foh Road near the Stone Bridge which suspended business on January 30, resuming operations at 11.30 a.m. January 31 under the protection of some 40 constables of the Bureau of Public Safety.

At 10 a.m. January 31, the Bureau of Social Affairs issued a notice to the coolies concerned warning them against creating further disturbance. The notice further states that the Bureau is arranging to secure work for the porters in various rice honges.

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January 31, 1934.

Morning Translation.

Central China Daily News and other local newspapers:

FACTORY INSPECTION

Yesterday at 7 p.m., Mr. Liu Ying Fa (劉英法) Chief of the Industrial Bureau of the Ministry of Industry, was entertained by the Preparation Committee of the National Production Conference at the Yih Yu Club, Hankow Road.

Referring to factory inspection in the International Settlement, Mr. Liu stated that factory inspection came under the jurisdiction of the Labour Bureau of the Ministry but that the authorities of the Ministry had determined to proceed with the programme already devised for the benefit of the workers.

He continued that probably negotiations might be resumed with the Settlement authorities in the near future.

China Times and other local newspapers:

UNAUTHORIZED TAXES TO BE ABOLISHED

Yesterday the local Tangpu received an instruction from the Central Kuomintang Headquarters ordering that all unauthorized taxes be abolished in order to lessen the burdens of the people and that all branches of the Tangpu be notified to cooperate with the Administrative authorities to abolish these taxes.

Shun Pao and other local newspapers:-

CHAPAI RICE HONGS SUSPEND BUSINESS

In December last year, Se Teng Fu, foreman of the Hun Tai Yu Kee Porters Transportation Company, attempted to secure work for a number of unemployed porters at the local rice hong. A dispute arose, but was later settled by the Bureau of Social Affairs with the assistance of the local Tangpu and the Bureau of Public Safety.

At 3 a.m. January 29, this foreman again assembled 200 unemployed porters at the rice trade wharf on the Soochow Creek and demanded that the rice hong should give them employment. A dispute arose and the rice hong suspended business for that day.

Unexpectedly, at 9 a.m. yesterday when the rice porters were at work, some 100 unemployed workers again appeared at the place. Fighting took place and traffic along Sinza Road Bridge and Ta Tung Road was obstructed.

Policemen of the Bureau of Public Safety restored order and the crowds were dispersed at 11 a.m. Many unemployed workers sustained serious injuries and were sent to the Red Cross Hospital on Carter Road. Eighteen porters were arrested and sent to the Public

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(Continued)
Safety Bureau including Kao Chi Foong, the ringleader.

The rice merchants suspended business at 11 a.m. yesterday pending the settlement of the dispute by the Kuomintang and other official organs.

The Rice merchants held an urgent meeting at 2 p.m. yesterday in the Rice and Peas Trade Association on Kulun Road, Chapei, at which the following resolutions were passed:-

1. That a general suspension of business be declared pending the settlement of the dispute by the official organs.
2. That four representatives be detailed to request the Kuomintang and official organs to check the disorderly conduct of the coolies.
3. That the Nantao Rice Trade be requested to render assistance.

The four representatives submitted an appeal at 4 p.m. yesterday to the Bureau of Social Affairs together with the following demands:-

1. That Sz Teng Fu and other workers be forbidden to proceed to the Woosungkiang Wharf until the dispute is settled.
2. That Sz Teng Fu be arrested should he ~~again~~ proceed to the wharf.
3. That Sz Teng Fu's permit be withdrawn.
4. That the various rice hong be protected.
5. That, unless the dispute is not settled tomorrow, the Nantao rice traders be requested to take the same action.

The Social Bureau promised them protection, and the Chapei rice merchants will resume business at 8 a.m. to-day.

Ta Mei Wan Pao dated Jan. 30:

PERMISSION TO FILM "THE GOOD EARTH" REFUSED.

According to reliable reports, the Chinese Government Authorities have refused to grant permission to the Metro-Goldwyn Mayer Company to film the story entitled "The Good Earth" because the text of this film will impair the dignity of China.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY
No. D. 5661
January 31 1941

Labour (2)

Unloading of Rice - dispute between porters and wheelbarrow coolies on Soochow Creek

In order to avoid further incident arising out of rivalry between the porters and the wheelbarrow coolies over the question of unloading rice, 33 rice hongs on Kwang Foh Road in the vicinity of Stone Bridge suspended business at 10.30 a.m. January 30 and remain closed this morning.

This morning, January 31, some 300 wheelbarrow coolies turned up without vehicles apparently waiting for the porters to put in an appearance.

Some 60 porters are now assembled in the "Rice Unloading Coolies' Representative Office", Lane 539, No.28 Myburgh Road.

In connection with the fight between the porters and the wheelbarrow coolies on the forenoon of January 30, it has been discovered that eighteen porters were injured and one of these has since died, another is detained in the Red Cross Hospital, 856 Sinza Road, in a serious condition, three more were sent to the Lester Chinese Hospital, Shantung Road, for treatment while the remaining thirteen have been sent to the Bureau of Public Safety.

At 2 p.m. January 30, some 100 Chinese representing the rice dealers held a meeting in the office of the Chapei Rice Dealers' Association, 212 Kialung Road, Chapei.

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January 30, 1934

Labour (3)

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company - Unrest among
tallymen of S.S. "Howo" and "Suiwo"

It is learned that unrest exists among some 13 tallymen of the S.S. "Howo" of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company. This vessel is on the Yangtze run and will arrive in Shanghai this ^{afternoon} forenoon. These tallymen who have been promised an increase in wages declare that they have not yet received it.

It is also learned that on the arrival of the S.S. "Suiwo" which is due in Shanghai on the forenoon of January 31, the tallymen of this vessel will also carry out agitation in connection with the question of their promised increase in wages.

Unloading of Rice on Soochow Creek - Rice porters
demand work

Some 100 rice porters formerly engaged in unloading rice from boats on the Soochow Creek assembled at about 10.30 a.m. January 29 along the Soochow Creek near the Stone Bridge, Chapei, and called at various rice honges with a view to demanding employment. Their request was however refused. At the same time the 700 wheelbarrow coolies undertaking the unloading of rice suspended work in order to avoid any possible conflict between them and the porters, who remained there until 4 p.m. when they dispersed without incident.

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January 30, 4.

Labour (4)

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(Contin.)

Some 100 rice porters appeared at about 10 a.m. this morning, January 30, along the Soochow Creek near the Stone Bridge in Chapel, and attempted to carry out the unloading of rice. On their being prevented by the wheelbarrow coolies who numbered about 500, a fight ensued resulting in six of the rice porters being injured. Chinese police who arrived on the scene dispersed the crowd and sent the injured persons to the Bureau of Public Safety.

Unloading of rice has been suspended.

The "Rice Unloading Coolies' Representatives Office", Lane 539, No.28 Myburgh Road, notified the rice porters to register their names with the office between January 29 and 31 in order to strive to obtain the work of unloading rice on the Soochow Creek.

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December 29, 1933.

Labour (3)

Unloading of Rice on Soochow Creek - Bureau of Public
Safety Arrest eight transportation coolies of coolie
contractor

At 11 a.m. December 28 the Water Police of the Bureau of Public Safety seized some 80 bamboo carrying poles on two boats lying in the Soochow Creek near the Stone Bridge, and arrested eight Chinese found on board.

It is learned that these Chinese are coolies employed by the Hung Tai Company, Lane 539, No. 28 Myburgh Road who were detailed there with a view to preventing the wheelbarrow coolies from unloading rice.

The unloading of rice proceeded without incident yesterday, December 28.

Copies of a handbill purporting to emanate from these coolies were distributed to all rice hongs along the Soochow Creek on the afternoon of December 29. This handbill denounces the wheelbarrow coolies as having seized the business of the transportation coolies on jetties.

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December

Labour (4)

Rice Unloading Coolies on Soochow Creek - activities of coolie contractor

At 5 p.m. December 27, some ten coolie foremen of the Hung Tai (恒泰) Company, Lane 539 No. 28 Myburgh Road, held an urgent meeting in the office of the Company and discussed the action of the rice hong along the Soochow Creek in Chapei in entrusting the unloading of rice to wheelbarrow coolies. It was eventually decided to assemble all coolies of the Company in the vicinity of the Creek on the morning of December 28 and prevent the wheelbarrow coolies by force from unloading rice. It was also decided that no responsibility be taken for any incident arising out of the movement and that should the Chinese Authorities arrest any coolie for creating disturbances, all coolies be urged to proceed in a body to the local Kuomintang and Bureau of Social Affairs and appeal for his release.

It appears that the unloading of rice which had been carried out by the Company's coolies for the past 2 years was recently entirely entrusted by the rice hong to wheelbarrow coolies. This action means that some 250 coolies of the Company would be deprived of this source of income.

It is learned that this morning, some 200 of these coolies are loitering in the vicinity of the Creek opposite Stone Bridge while some 50 are in the office of the Company awaiting developments. The wheelbarrow coolies numbering some 700 have turned up as usual and are waiting the arrival of the rice boats.

Sp. Branch.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE C. & S. B. REGISTRY.
No. <u>D. 5661</u>
Date <u>31/1/34</u>

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Sinza

Jan. 30th. 34.

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Disturbance between Rice Carrying Coolies
and Rice Wheelbarrow Coolies in Chapei.

At 10a.m. a telephone message was received from C.P.C. 2501 on duty at Stone Bridge to the effect that a disturbance was taking place in Chapei and that large crowds were coming over the Bridge into the Settlement. Instructions were given by Inspector Ling that the gates be closed and a party of detectives and Uniform Branch proceeded to the Stone Bridge. C.P.C. 2501 reports that after the gates were closed the Chapei Police came on to the bridge and drove the crowds back into Chapei.

On arrival at The Stone Bridge the crowds could be observed on the Chapei side of the Soochow Creek, numerous Chapei Police could be seen and they appeared to have the matter in hand. Supt. Robertson (Special Branch) was informed and uniformed foreigners posted on Sinza and Wuchen Bridges. C.D.S. 125 was sent over to make enquiry and his first information was to the effect that the trouble was between wheelbarrow coolies employed in transporting rice from the jetties and lorry drivers who were taking over the work and thereby causing them to lose their employment.

Further enquiries showed that these were not the true facts but that the dispute ^{was} being confined to Rice car-ry-

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carrying coolies and wheelbarrow coolies transporting rice.

During the disturbance 3 carrying coolies who had been injured came over the Stone Bridge and after being brought to the Station were sent to the Lester Chinese Hospital.

Dr.'s chit as follows:-

Tsai Ts Kong (), suffering from contusion of back and cheek - not serious - requires about 7 days treatment.

Signed H.C. Tsai.

Sung Poh Kan (), suffering from laceration of scalp and contusion of forearm - not serious - requires about 10 days treatment.

Signed H.C. Tsai.

Kaung Shu Pao (), suffering from contusion of back and abrasion of fingers - not serious - about 5 days treatment.

Signed H.C. Tsai.

On being questioned the above coolies gave the following story.

Prior to Sino-Japanese incident in Chapel 1932, coolies were engaged to carry rice from the boats to the jetties and wheelbarrow coolies then transported the rice. After the above incident the carrying coolies were dispensed with and the wheelbarrow coolies carried the rice from the boats to the jetties and transported it on their wheelbarrow thereby gaining more pay.

On 29-1-34, the carrying coolies were brought back on the work causing much dissatisfaction amongst the

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wheelbarrow coolies who refused in some cases to transport the rice. The same conditions existed today 30-1-34 and fights ensued resulting in a general disturbance.

The coolies state they receive $5\frac{1}{2}$ cents for each two bags of rice carried.

The reason given by these three coolies for coming to the settlement was, that they were going to report the matter to their foreman contractor Sz Tung Kh at his office 28/539 Myburgh Road.

The particulars of the three coolies are as follows:-

Tsai Ts Kong - age 40 - Kempo - residing at unnumbered house, North Szechuen Road.

Sung Poh Kau - age 40 - Hupeh - residing at Pootung.

Kaung Shu Pao - age 37 - Hupeh, residing at Pootung.

"Copy sent to Special Branch for information.

J. L. *CH*

Head
D.S.I.